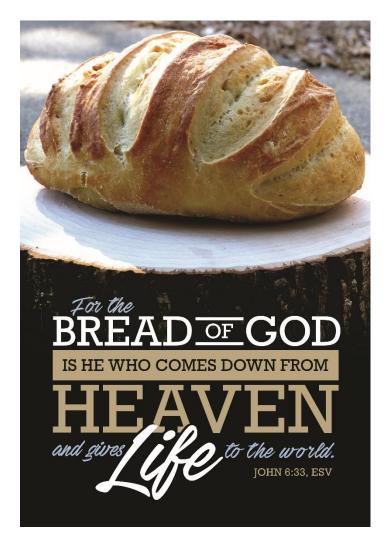
Faith Lutheran Church

August 5, 2018



Pastor Ellen Schoepf prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org 4515 Dobie Road Okemos, MI 48864



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



To make disciples for Jesus Christ... ...we **Gather** in faith for worship, prayer, study and fellowship ...we **Equip** the people of God with a faith that works in real life ...we **Serve** the world in the name of Jesus Christ



Faith Lutheran Church's Welcoming Statement:

We, at Faith Lutheran Church, welcome you as a child of God. As Paul said in his letter to the Galatians, "for in

Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith." (Galatians 3:26) We strive to be a place where everyone is welcomed and affirmed.

No matter your age, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, marital status, faith background, political leanings, or mental or physical ability - you are welcome as you are. As children of God, we are all one in Christ Jesus and rely on the unconditional nature of God's love and grace to be our help and guide.

Email address faith@faithlutheranokemos.org

Websites

Faith Lutheran Church \approx www.faithlutheranokemos.org North/West Lower Michigan Synod \approx www.mittensynod.org Evangelical Lutheran Church in America \approx www.elca.org

> <u>Facebook</u> facebook.com/faithlutheranokemos

You also can find the audio available on Faith's website under worship Sermons

Hungry to Do

Barley bread on the ground and fish in hand, like manna that came down from heaven in the wilderness for their ancestors, left the crowd addled and eager to know how to keep this food coming. But had they not noticed? Pay attention. Receive, take and eat on the grassy green hillside by the sea just as your ancestors did on the sandy brown desert floor.

Apparently when Jesus answered the crowd's question, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" by telling them that God's work is God's work, they were not satisfied. They wanted to know what to do. Jesus continued, "Believe" (John 6:28-29).

Oscar was desperate to have what his wife had, unrattled faith. Relentlessly, just as day after day he stalked rummage sales, scoured flea markets, and searched secondhand shops to find treasures, he hunted for the land of faith where breath would be easy, sight would be sharp, trust would be simple, and steps would be certain on ground that would not shift. He wanted to have what his wife had, unrattled faith. The day he pled and shrugged, "What can I do to have it?" she said this: "Oscar, just give up."

What must we do to end the hunger to *do*? We must be ready to lose enough to gain, be brave enough to be weak, be empty enough to be full, be vulnerable enough to be safe, be done enough to be done.

The crowd pressed Jesus. "Sir, give us this bread always" (John 6:34). Jesus said, in effect, "Why sure, that's what I do."

Sunday, August 5, 2018

11th Sunday after Pentecost

Introduction to the day

Jesus does great deeds of power and gives his disciples authority over demons. Yet none of this power is unilateral; it all must be received by faith. Jesus asks his disciples to go out without money or supplies, so that they will be dependent on how others receive them. When we are sent from the assembly to witness and to heal, we are asked to be vulnerable, to be dependent on the reception of others. The Spirit always operates in the between: between Jesus and his Abba, between Jesus and us, between you and me, between us and those to whom we are sent.

If hearing assistance is needed, please ask an usher for a personal PA receiver.

The ushers also have large print copies of today's worship folder available.

If it will be difficult for you to stand along with the congregation during any part of the worship service, please feel free to remain seated.

There is a nursery available during the worship service for those who wish to use it. It is located at the end of the hall beyond the coat racks.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

We cordially greet all who have come to worship today. Please register your attendance and join us in fellowship after the service.

Prayer Requests

PRELUDE

"O Bread of Life from Heaven"

arr. Raymond Haan

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

GATHERING SONG

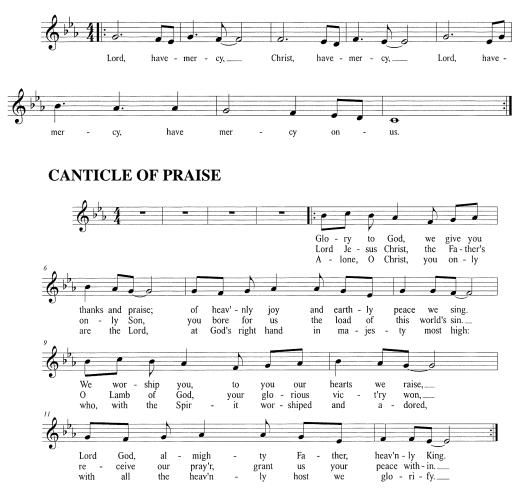
What Feast of Love

ELW #487

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE



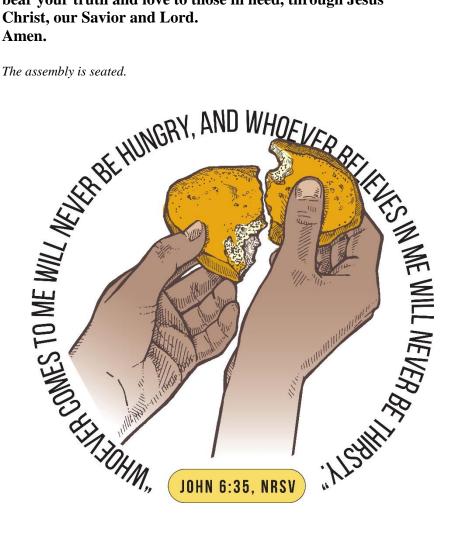
PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.



God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

A food crisis becomes a faith crisis for the Israelites in the wilderness. The hungry people forget God's saving work in the exodus, and they wish for the food they had in Egypt. Nevertheless, God miraculously meets their needs, with manna for bread and quail for meat.

A reading from Exodus.

²The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. ³The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

⁴Then the LORD said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not."

⁹Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.'" ¹⁰And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. ¹¹The LORD spoke to Moses and said, ¹²"I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'"

¹³In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. ¹⁴When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat."

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: Ephesians 4:1-16

Christians share fundamental unity and diversity. Our unity consists in the one body, one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God. Our diversity is expressed in various forms of ministry, whose goal is equipping the saints and building up Christ's one body.

A reading from Ephesians.

¹I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

⁷But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸Therefore it is said,

"When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people."

⁹(When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) ¹¹The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, ¹²to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. ¹⁴We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. ¹⁵But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*



GOSPEL: John 6:24-35

Many of the five thousand people Jesus fed in the wilderness continued to follow him throughout the countryside. Jesus challenges them to consider the real nature of their quest.

The holy gospel according to John. Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁴When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were [beside the sea,] they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

²⁵When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" ²⁶Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. ²⁷Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." ²⁸Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" ²⁹Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." ³⁰So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? ³¹Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" ³²Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." ³⁴They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

³⁵Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY

I Am the Bread of Life

ELW #485

CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate. was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father. and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints. the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in our loving and almighty God who abundantly provides the bread of life to all who hunger, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Prayers of intercession are prayed. To each petition, the assembly responds:

Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

The presiding minister concludes the prayers, and the assembly responds:

Almighty and loving God, we look to you in hope and trust, knowing that you will do far more than we can ask or imagine, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

The assembly is seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

"Two Menuets"

Jean-Jacques Naudot

Gwynne Kadrofske, flute

OFFERING RESPONSE

Let The Vineyards



OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Merciful God, you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing. You have set this feast before us. Open our hands to receive it. Open our hearts to embrace it. Open our lives to live it. We pray this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

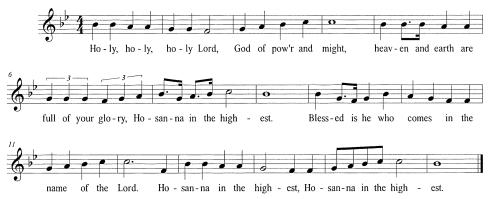
DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY





THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, Breath of life and Fire of love, with a mighty wind you brought creation into being, and by a pillar of fire you led your people into freedom. We praise you for the gift of your Son, who poured out your Spirit on his disciples of every race and nation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and the sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit, we await his coming again to renew the face of the earth. Send now your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this meal: anoint us with your gifts of faith, hope, and love, that, with thankful hearts, we may be witnesses to your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. **Amen**



LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

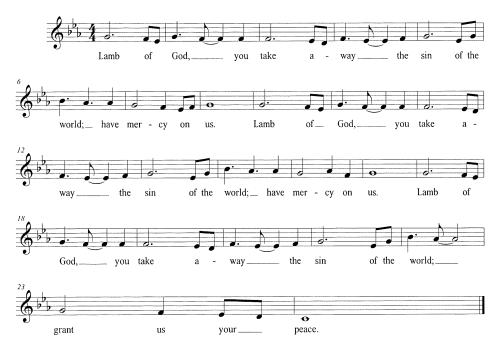
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.

COMMUNION SONG



CONGREGATIONAL SONG

O Bread of Life from Heaven

ELW #480

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

O Living Bread from Heaven

ELW #542

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Jesus Christ, host of this meal, you have given us not only this bread and cup, but your very self, that we may feast on your great love. Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of peace, for you are Lord forevermore. **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

ELW #545

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

"Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer"

arr. Paul Manz

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Sisters & brothers in Christ, welcome to worship! May your time in the Lord be rich and blessed.

Pastor Ellen Schoepf Secretary Katie Love Director of Christian Education Director of Music Organist/Pianist prellen@faithlutheranokemos.org klove@faithlutheranokemos.org Katie Love Debra Borton-McDonough Bruce Williams

Bi-Weekly Announcement packets are available in the narthex.

July 29, 2018 Attendance: 119		
Serving Faith	August 5	August 12
Acolyte	open	open
Altar Care	Michelle Ransom & Pam Williams	
Communion Assistants	open	open
	Diane Wilke	VBS Sunday
	Tara Williams	VBS Sunday
Greeters	Rich Weingartner	Mike Eschelbach
Readers	Diane Wilke	VBS Sunday
Lay Assistant	Tara Williams	VBS Sunday
Ushers	Schultz Family	Schultz Family
Nursery	Jennifer Coe	Heidi Bowers

Altar Flower Dedications:

Sunday, August 5th

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Brenda, Becca, Katy, Austin, and Ciara in celebration of Walter's birthday.



VBS is this week, August 6-9th! Please keep our students and leaders in your prayers this week! Thank you for all your donations, prayers and support. We are excited to tell you more about our great week at VBS on Sunday, August 12th! See you there!



COMMUNITY PICNIC & CONCERT

FEATURING:

SUMMER OF SOL

PULLED PORK SANDWICHES AND HOMEMADE KETTLE CHIPS CATERED BY THE WATERSHED BAR & GRILL

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25 4:00 - 7:00 PM

CONSUMERS ENERGY

Consumers Energy will be present, encouraging people to have free energy audits done in their homes.

Faith Lutheran Church 4515 Doble Rd., Okemos

Enjoy free food and live music on front lawn of church

August 25 4:00 - 7:00 PM

Corn Hole Contest, games and prizes

Information on Free Energy Audits

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH 4515 Dobie Rd. Okemos, MI

517-349-0620 www.faithlutheranokemos.org

Volunteers are needed to make this event a success! Please see the sign-up table in the narthex after worship or contact Brenda Kopf at <u>bjktchr@sbcglobal.net</u> See you there!